

II. Remarks

The examiner has restricted the claims under 37 U.S.C. §1.499 into the following two groups.

I. Claims 56-71 drawn to an isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of an amino acid sequence having at least 70% sequence identity to a fragment of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:29 that binds to *B. anthracis* bacteria.

II. Claims 72-75 drawn to a method of detecting the presence or absence of *B. anthracis* bacteria in a sample comprising contacting a sample with a test polypeptide and determining whether the test polypeptide in the sample has bound to *B. anthracis* bacteria in a sample.

The examiner has also required that the Applicants elect a species.

Applicants elect Group I, claims 56-71, and further elect the species: a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 29.

Claims 56-71 each read on the elected species.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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CMB/im